

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

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TAGS EIND OCON

SUBJ WIPO TRIENNIAL ADMINISTRATIVE MEETINGS IN GENEVA

1. WIPO TRIENNIAL ADMINISTRATIVE MEETINGS CONCLUDED NOVEMBER 27 WITH APPROVAL OF REPORTS OF ALL WIPO ADMINISTRATIVE BODIES.
2. FIRST DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL, ARPAD BOGSCH, AN AMERICAN NATIONAL, WAS UNANIMOUSLY ELECTED DIRECTOR GENERAL OF WIPO FOR A SIX (6) YEAR TERM.
3. UNITED STATES RE-ELECTED TO THREE-YEAR TERM ON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF PARIS UNION (E.E. PARIS INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY CONVENTION).
4. USDEL ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF PARIS UNION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.
5. USDEL INDICATED ITS CONTINUING SUPPORT FOR SPECIALIZED AGENCY STATUS FOR WIPO BUT EMPHASIZED THAT US ASSUMED NEGOTIATIONS WOULD NOT DEPART FROM THE BASIC OUTLINES OF THE DRAFT SPECIALIZED AGENCY AGREEMENT. THE DRAFT AGREEMENT WHICH WAS APPROVED BY THE FOURTH EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE WIPO COORDINATION COMMITTEE (MAY 1973) GENERALLY CONFORMS TO EXISTING SPECIALIZED AGENCY AGREEMENTS.
6. AFTER INITIATIVE OF DANISH DELEGATION, UNITED STATES AND OTHER

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DELEGATIONS FROM FREE MARKET ECONOMY COUNTRIES SPOKE IN SUPPORT OF

BUDGET CUTS, BETTER JUSTIFICATION FOR NEW POSTS, AND CALLING EXTRA-ORDINARY SESSION OF WIPO COORDINATION COMMITTEE TO MEET AS A SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE BUDGET PROPOSALS WITH A VIEW TO BETTER BUDGET PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING. WIPO COORDINATION COMMITTEE IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO MEET IN MID-1974 TO REVIEW PROPOSED BUDGET FOR POSSIBLE ECONOMIES AND TO ESTABLISH PRIORITIES AMONG PROGRAMS.

7. UNITED STATES AND A NUMBER OF OTHER FREE MARKET ECONOMY COUNTRIES SPOKE IN FAVOR OF HIGH PRIORITY FOR LEGAL-TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO IMPROVE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION IN THESE COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, UNITED STATES, UK AND FRG EMPHASIZED THAT THEY WERE OPPOSED TO A SPECIAL FUND FOR THESE PROGRAMS AND THAT THE FINANCING SHOULD BE DERIVED FROM THE MANDATORY CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE UNIONS CONCERNED.

8. A SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL PROBLEM AROSE DURING DISCUSSION OF A BUDGET ITEM FOR THE BERN UNION (I.E. BERNE COPYRIGHT CONVENTION) TO WHICH UNITED STATES IS NOT REPEAT NOT A PARTY. THE ITEM CONCERNED THE CONVENING OF A DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE IN BRUSSELS IN MAY 1974 TO ADOPT A CONVENTION RELATING TO THE DISTRIBUTION OF PROGRAM-CARRYING SIGNALS TRANSMITTED BY SATELLITE TO BE CO-SPONSORED BY UNESCO AND WIPO, AS HAVE ALL THE PREPARATORY MEETINGS. AS A RESULT OF DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNESCO CONCERNING THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE THE WIPO WAS CONFRONTED WITH THREE POSSIBLE COURSES OF ACTION: (A) TO CO-SPONSOR THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE IN CONFORMITY WITH THE MEASURES DECIDED BY UNESCO, (B) TO REFRAIN FROM CO-SPONSORING THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE, OR (C) TO NEGOTIATE WITH UNESCO THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE COULD BE CO-SPONSORED.

9. AFTER MUCH PARLIAMENTARY MENEUVERING AND POLITICAL FILIBUSTERING BY THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (PRIMARILY AFRICAN) AND SOME OF THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES (PRIMARILY GDR) AN EGYPTIAN PROPOSAL ASKING THE WIPO DIRECTOR GENERAL TO ORGANIZE JOINTLY WITH UNESCO THE BRUSSELS DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON SATELLITES IN FULL CONFORMITY WITH THE MEASURES ADOPTED BY UNESCO WAS APPROVED THE WIPO GENERAL ASSEMBLY BY A VOTE OF 26 FOR, 18(US) AGAINST, AND 7 ABSTENTIONS. AFTER NUMEROUS INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS, UNITED STATES AND VIRTUALLY ALL OTHER FREE MARKET ECONOMY COUNTRIES VOTED AGAINST THIS PROPOSAL BECAUSE IT WOULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF EXCLUDING TWO MEMBER STATES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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(PORTUGAL AND SOUTH AFRICA) OF THE BERNE COPYRIGHT CONVENTION FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE CONFERENCE. (INFORMATION ON POSITIONS TAKEN BY BOTH DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, VOTING, ETC. ARE SPELLED OUT IN DETAIL IN THE DRAFT REPORTS (AB/IV/34) ON THE WIPO MEETINGS WHICH WILL BE BROUGHT BACK BY USDEL.)

10. WIPO SECRETARIAT PROPOSAL FOR "PROVISIONAL MEASURES TO CORRECT SOME OF THE EFFECTS OF MODIFICATIONS OF THE EXCHANGE RATE OF

THE DOLLAR" WAS REJECTED BECAUSE NO REPEAT NO DELEGATION SUPPORTED THE PROPOSAL. USDEL, FRG, UK, FRANCE AND OTHERS OPPOSED THIS PROPOSAL BECAUSE IT REPRESENTED A DEPARTURE FROM THE UN COMMON SYSTEM, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE UN AND WIPO FOR SPECIALIZED AGENCY STATUS.

11. THERE WAS EXTENDED DEBATE ON DIRECTORIAL POSTS IN WHICH DELEGATIONS FROM WESTERN EUROPE GENERALLY SUPPORTED FOUR (4) DEPUTY DIRECTORS GENERAL AT THE GRADE OF D.2, AND DELEGATES FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND SOCIALISTS GENERALLY SUPPORTED THREE (3) DEPUTY DIRECTORS GENERAL AT THE GRADE OF D.2. LATTER PROPOSAL WAS PUT FORWARD IN TERMS OF ONE DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR SOCIALIZED COUNTRIES, ONE FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AND ONE FOR "ALL OTHERS." USDEL, CANADA, JAPAN, AND AUSTRALIA TOOK POSITION THAT, WHILE IT FAVORED AN EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF POSTS, NEW POSTS AT HIGHER LEVELS SHOULD BE CREATED ONLY IF NECESSARY FOR MORE EFFICIENT FUNCTIONING OF WIPO. HOWEVER, MOST DELEGATIONS FAVORED INCREASE IN NUMBER OF DIRECTORIAL POSTS AND ULTIMATELY PROPOSAL FOR INCREASE TO THREE DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERALS WAS APPROVED BY VOTE OF 35 FOR, 0 AGAINST, AND 7 (US) ABSTENTIONS.BASSIN

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